



### STARS OF THE WEEK

**Delilah Dryden**  
**Shaun Shepherd**  
**Alfie Purvis**  
**Callan Thorburn**  
**Amelia-Rose McNamara-C**  
**Jack Stephenson**  
**Jack Mather**

### ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Our School Target is 97%  
**LAST WEEK: 86.7%**

Nursery (Seahorses) - 95.5%  
 Reception (Turtles) - 91.4%  
 Year 1 (Jellyfish) - 93.7%  
 Year 2 (Puffins) - 83.0%  
 Year 3 (Sharks) - 93.5%  
 Year 4 (Penguins) - 73.3%

**Well Done**  
**Seahorses & Jellyfish!**

### 2022 SCHOOL DIARY

Friday 18th February	School Closes for Spring Half Term
Tuesday 1st March	School Reopens for Spring Half Term 2
Friday 1st July	Additional Bank Holiday date for Queens Platinum Jubilee

### SWIMMING SUCCESS

The children in Key Stages 1 and 2 have really impressed us this week as they have embarked upon their school swimming lessons for the first time in nearly 2 years. For many of the children this was the first time they have been swimming at all due to the limitations of Covid. Every child arrived at school in the morning with their swimming kit and all of the children got into the water without any of the worries that we might have expected after so long. Having our 2 resident mermaids, Mrs Goodfellow and Miss Stewart, in the pool with the children allowed them to have much more time in the water.

It was unfortunate that a few of our children were off school ill for their first lesson back but we're sure they'll soon settle back into lessons next week.

We've started to add swimming contribution amounts to SchoolGrid accounts and will do this on a weekly basis; this makes things much easier for us in school. If possible please avoid sending cash to school—Mrs Dellbridge can help with any queries around using SchoolGrid.

### HOMEWORK UPDATE

Thanks to all of the parents who responded to our homework questionnaire. We had a real mix of responses as we always do with homework. Having discussed the responses with governors, and seen some improvements in engagement since the start of this term, we have decided to continue with homework as it is at present.

We will continue to encourage and reward the children for regularly completing Doodlemaths and Reading Buddy through reward charts and extra playtimes and continue to send out the weekly email on a Friday so parents can see which classes are doing best with these. We are more than happy to support parents with accessing homework on devices. We are finding that once the children are encouraged and supported to get onto the relevant software they are able to complete homework independently. Most of our homework doesn't have set deadlines and relies on short, regular engagement. We collect the engagement information from Doodlemaths and Reading Buddy very first thing on a Friday morning ready for our assembly.

### WORD OF THE WEEK—KEEP IT SIMPLE!

Your child's Word of the Week need not be a huge task. All we ask is that they find a word that is new to them, discuss it briefly with an adult and be able to tell us what that word means. The word may come from something they have heard on TV, whilst out and about or while reading something—not always a school book!

### OUR AMAZING STAFF!

Unfortunately we've had a number of staff unavoidably absent from work in the last few weeks which has left us very stretched in school. We are truly lucky to have such a dedicated staff at Amble Links who have been willing to step into different roles, be highly flexible and work a few extra minutes to help out and keep things running as smoothly as possible. We soon hope to be up to full strength again but this is a big shout out to all staff who go above and beyond to help make our school the great place it is!

**THANKS EVERYONE!**

### SHOE LACES!

Many of our children come to school in shoes that be done up easily with Velcro which is really helpful. It is vital though that children learn to tie their own laces at some point, especially if they are coming to school in shoes or trainers with laces. It saves us a huge amount of time if children can

do their own laces and we ask that parents begin to practice this with their children. This is especially useful for children taking part in sports clubs after school who have boots or trainers that need lacing. Here are a couple videos that might be useful.



[SHOE TYING TRICK](#) [HOW TO TIE YOUR LACES](#)

### COVID CASES IN SCHOOL

We continue to have a number of Covid cases in school this week amongst pupils and staff. The staff cases have meant that we have been a little stretched to say the least. We will contact you by email should a positive case be identified in your class. **IT IS ADVISED THAT IF THIS IS THE CASE YOU TEST YOUR CHILD DAILY FOR 7 DAYS.** Along with the usual Covid symptoms we are also hearing of positive cases that have been identified following children being sick or having sore throats. Again, we would advise getting a PCR test if these symptoms appear. We will also be very quick to send children home if they are unwell and would advise PCR tests in many of these cases.

### CONSERVATION CLUB ACTIVITIES

This week, our Conservation Club (for Y3 and Y4 children) completed their first litter pick in the school grounds in practise for when they go out into the community to collect rubbish.. Despite regular litter picking by Mrs Caven-Gomez, we were surprised at how much litter is thrown or blown into our school grounds. Other activities coming up for the Conservation Club will be a beach clean, making posters, learning more about recycling and making bird feeders. We still have a few places left for Conservation Club which takes place after school until 4.15pm on Wednesdays. Please let Mrs Dellbridge know if your child would like to commit to a place.